

09/147362

300 Rec'd PCT/PTO 08 DEC 1998

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: CHENEBAUX et al.

Serial No.: PCT/FR 98/00691

Filed: Herewith

For: SYNTHETIC PEPTIDES USEFUL IN BIOLOGICAL ASSAYS FOR DETECTING
INFECTIONS CAUSED BY GROUP O HIV-VIRUSES#4/Pre-A
F.R.
07/12/99

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the captioned application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS✓
Cancel claims 1-14, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Add the following claims.

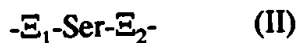
15. Synthetic peptides of the monomer type with 13 to 33 amino acids or of the dimer type with 26 to 66 amino acids, in linear form or in a form cyclized by means of inter-cysteine disulphide bridges, having the general formula (I):



wherein:

- Δ is selected from the group consisting of a biotinyl radical, a biocytinyl radical, a hydrogen atom, an acetyl ($\text{CH}_3\text{CO-}$) radical, an aliphatic chain which may contain one or two thiol, an aldehyde functional group and an amine functional group,

- Z represents a peptide sequence, selected from the group consisting of the sequences of the formulae (II) to (X):

A'
CONT'D.